

In Memoriam

EDWIN L. BRUCK, M.D.

THE RECENT DEATH* OF EDWIN L. BRUCK terminated the career of one of California's most distinguished and devoted physicians.

A leader in his chosen field of internal medicine, he was a prime mover in the formation of the San Francisco and the California Societies of Internal Medicine. Despite the heavy load of an active teaching assignment and the demands of a large practice he found time to participate in the work of organized medicine.

He served as a member of the Board of Directors of the San Francisco Medical Society and as its President in 1939. He was a member of the Council of the California Medical Association from 1942 to 1949, and Chairman of the Council from 1946 to 1949.

Ed Bruck was dedicated to the provision of medical care of high standard for the people of California. He was uncompromising in his opposition to any influence which threatened its excellence.

He was vigorous and effective in the struggle to prevent the socialization of medicine in California in the era of 1938 to 1950. A medical statesman of the first order and not content only to oppose, he was one of the architects of the constructive policies of the California Medical Association from the formation of California Physicians' Service through the campaign to bring medical care more easily within the reach of our people by the wide expansion of voluntary health insurance.

Ed was a critic of the situation then existing in the American Medical Association which allowed essentially one man control and was the author of the California resolution that ultimately resulted in returning control of that body to its elected representatives. He was one of those who initiated the policies which made the American Medical Association better able to withstand the challenge of 1948 to 1952.

In these sound, realistic and forward-looking activities he modestly kept himself in the background. He rejected repeated efforts to make him President of the California Medical Association and to project him into the national picture.

Ed was a Californian in every sense of the word. He was born on the Krug ranch near St. Helena in 1893. He was a descendant of Doctor Edward Turner Bale, an English ship's surgeon, whose vessel was wrecked near Monterey in 1837, and who practiced medicine briefly there. Doctor Bale married Maria Ignacia Soberanes,

a niece of General Vallejo, and a member of a Spanish Grant family. Subsequently he was awarded a grant in the Napa Valley by Governor Juan Alvarado. Ed's paternal grandfather, Louis Bruck, who came to the United States with Charles Krug, was one of the early vintners in the Napa Valley. His father, Bismarck Bruck, served with distinction in the California Legislature as well as carrying on the Krug tradition.

Ed received his education at the University of California and was awarded his degree in Medicine in 1920. His graduate training in internal medicine was in the University Hospital. After a period of study in Europe, he became associated in practice with the late Herbert C. Moffitt and was one of the last of the splendid group of men trained by that illustrious teacher of medicine.

He was active on the faculty of the University of California until he became Clinical Professor of Medicine, Emeritus. Most of his teaching was done on the California Service of the San Francisco Hospital. He was respected, admired and beloved by his students and house staff because of his diagnostic acumen, his broad knowledge of medicine, his ability to impart that knowledge to others and to apply it to patient care.

He made contributions to medical knowledge and to the medical literature. Perhaps one of the most significant was in the treatment of pneumonia in the period before the advent of chemotherapy and antibiotics when pneumonia was less easily manageable.

Ed served as Chief of Medicine and Chief of Staff of St. Luke's Hospital, where he gave liberally of his talents. His services as a consultant were widely sought over Northern California. As one of those who benefited from them phrased it, "When the going is rough, Ed Bruck is a tower of strength."

Those who knew him well—his colleagues, patients and friends—regarded him with respect and affection as an individual as well as a physician. His intelligence and incisive mind could brush aside inconsequential matters, go directly to the heart of a problem and reach a rapid but thoughtful decision. His own forthrightness made him intolerant of sham and subterfuge.

Ed had a delightful sense of humor and an articulate and pungent way of expressing his thoughts. These and his capacity for warm friendship made him a delightful companion.

He loved the out of doors. He was a yachtsman, a hunter and a fisherman. One could feel closest to Ed in the isolation and quiet of a duck blind.

To those who knew him best his outstanding characteristic was courage. This was apparent in

*Dr. Bruck died 5 January 1967.

his entire life but was most evident in the two serious and protracted illnesses he mastered to return to the practice of medicine. Even during these he could laugh and make light of his predicament.

His sometimes brusque exterior clothed a kindness and concern for others. None know this as well as the patients whom his skill and devotion carried through serious illnesses.

BLONDIN, EDWARD A., La Mesa. Died 25 January 1967, in Laguna Hills, aged 75. Graduate of Washington University School of Medicine, St. Louis, Missouri, 1919. Licensed in California in 1922. Doctor Blondin was a retired member of the San Diego County Medical Society and the California Medical Association, and an associate member of the American Medical Association.

CRAYCROFT, CHARLES BURR, San Jose. Died 2 February 1967, in San Jose, aged 52. Graduate of Stanford University School of Medicine, Palo Alto-San Francisco, 1940. Licensed in California in 1940. Doctor Craycroft was a member of the Santa Clara County Medical Society.

DALE, PHILIP M., Los Angeles. Died 29 January 1967, in Los Angeles, aged 83. Graduate of Rush Medical College, Chicago, Illinois, 1912. Licensed in California in 1924. Doctor Dale was a retired member of the Los Angeles County Medical Association and the California Medical Association, and an associate member of the American Medical Association.

GATTUCCIO, BARTHOLOMEW, San Jose. Died 21 January 1967, in San Jose, aged 73. Graduate of Hahneman Medical College of the Pacific, San Francisco, 1916. Licensed in California in 1916. Doctor Gattuccio was a retired member of the Santa Clara County Medical Society and the California Medical Association, and an associate member of the American Medical Association.

GREENE, CLARENCE ORVILLE, Lodi. Died 2 January 1967, aged 53, of heart disease. Graduate of the University of Louisville School of Medicine, Kentucky, 1948. Licensed in California in 1950. Doctor Greene was a member of the San Joaquin County Medical Society.

HILGESEN, JAMES, Campbell. Died 16 January 1967, in Palo Alto, aged 70, of bilateral bronchopneumonitis. Graduate of the University of California School of Medicine, Berkeley-San Francisco, 1927. Licensed in California in 1927. Doctor Hilgesen was a retired member of the Alameda-Contra Costa Medical Association and the California Medical Association, and an associate member of the American Medical Association.

HOLLINGSWORTH, LOREN D., Laguna Beach. Died 26 December 1966, in Laguna Beach, aged 84, of cerebral thrombosis. Graduate of the College of Medicine of the University of Southern California, Los Angeles, 1905. Licensed in California in 1912. Doctor Hollingsworth was a member of the Orange County Medical Association.

MCRAE, COLIN CHRISTOPHER, San Francisco. Died 6 February 1967, in San Francisco, aged 64. Graduate of

It is rare to encounter an individual with the many talents and fine characteristics of Ed Bruck. His colleagues, friends and patients mourn his passing.

Our utmost sympathy is extended to his widow, Ellen, and to his children, Ann, Kergan and Meredith.

JOHN W. CLINE, M.D.

the University of Michigan Medical School, Ann Arbor, 1927. Licensed in California in 1932. Doctor McRae was a member of the San Francisco Medical Society.

MEDOFF, MURRAY H., North Hollywood. Died 24 January 1967, aged 43, of coronary thrombosis. Graduate of Kansas City College of Osteopathy and Surgery, Kansas City, Missouri, 1950. Licensed in California in 1952. M.D. degree from California College of Medicine, 1962. Doctor Medoff was a member of the Los Angeles County Medical Association.

MURPHY, WILLIAM K., Veterans Home. Died 6 February 1967, at the California Veterans Home in Yountville, Napa County, aged 68. Graduate of Creighton University School of Medicine, Omaha, Nebraska, 1928. Licensed in California in 1928. Doctor Murphy was a member of the Napa County Medical Society.

PARRY, GRONWAY R., JR., Mountain View. Died 4 February 1967, aged 41, of leukemia. Graduate of Northwestern University Medical School, Chicago, Illinois, 1954. Licensed in California in 1957. Doctor Parry was a member of the Santa Clara County Medical Society.

PYLE, HOWARD REITZ, San Mateo. Died 23 January 1967, in San Mateo, aged 40. Graduate of the University of Kansas School of Medicine, Lawrence-Kansas City, 1951. Licensed in California in 1955. Doctor Pyle was a member of the San Mateo County Medical Society.

RIESENFELD, FRED FRITZ, Los Angeles. Died 13 January 1967, in Los Angeles, aged 75, of astrocytoma of the brain. Graduate of Friedrich-Wilhelms-Universität Medizinische Fakultät, Berlin, Prussia, Germany, 1919. Licensed in California in 1940. Doctor Riesenfeld was a member of the Los Angeles County Medical Association.

ROTH, HAROLD ALAN, Riverside. Died 5 January 1967, in Long Beach, aged 60. Graduate of the University of Illinois College of Medicine, Chicago, 1930. Licensed in California in 1954. Doctor Roth was a member of the Riverside County Medical Association.

SCHNEIDER, KENNETH F., Los Angeles. Died 24 January 1967, in Los Angeles, aged 70, of myocardial infarction. Graduate of the University of Illinois College of Medicine, Chicago, 1935. Licensed in California in 1941. Doctor Schneider was a member of the Los Angeles County Medical Association.

SCHWEITZER, S. ROLAND, Sacramento. Died 18 January 1967, in an automobile accident near Truckee, aged 41. Graduate of the University of Rochester School of Med-